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# MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

## Quarterly Report
## 4th Quarter 1982

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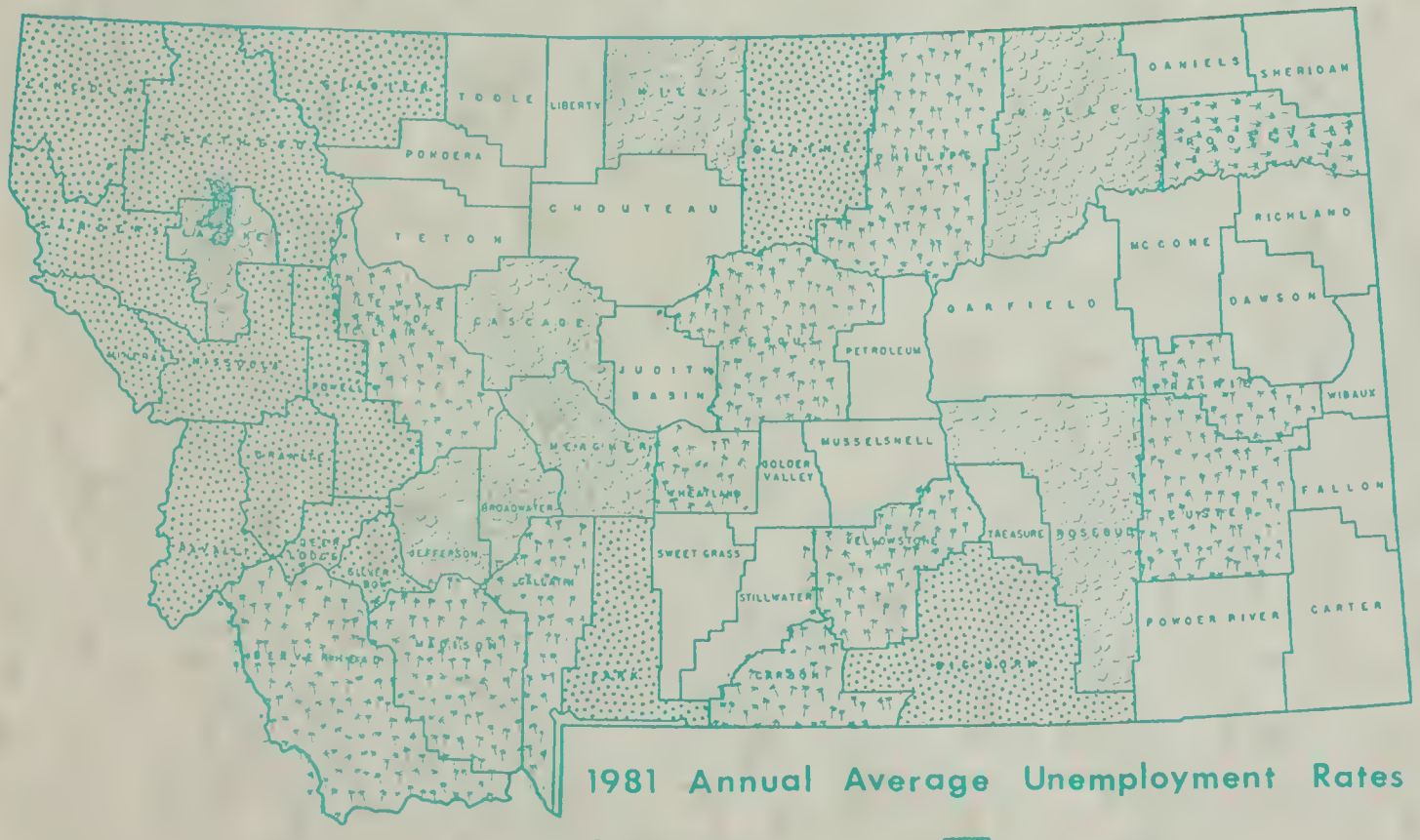


### 1981 Annual Average Unemployment Rates

- 1.0 TO 4.0%
- 4.1 TO 6.0%
- 6.1 TO 8.0%
- 8.1 + %

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# MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

Quarterly Report

4th QTR. 1982

STATE OF MONTANA

TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

Department of Labor and Industry

David L. Hunter, Commissioner

Volume 1 - Number 4

Produced by:
Research and Analysis Bureau
in cooperation with the
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment & Training Admin.

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# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the armed forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployed - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics X-11 variant of the Census Method II seasonal adjustment program.

8. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

9. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area - as determined by the Office of Management and Budget. The SMSA must have a central city with a population of 50,000 or more.

10. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Research and Analysis Bureau, Montana Department of Labor and Industry, consists of a central city or cities with a population of less than 50,000 and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

All Labor Force statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodolgy procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis which is called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

Bob Rafferty, Chief
Research & Analysis Bureau
MT. Department of Labor and Industry
P.O. Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59624

STATEWIDE

Employment and Unemployment Situation
(In Thousands)

| | JAN. 1983 Forecast | DEC. 1982 Prelim | NOV. 1982 Revised | DEC. 1981 Revised |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Civilian Labor Force | 381.2 | 385.6 | 388.3 | 382.4 |
| Employment | 341.4 | 350.0 | 351.5 | 356.6 |
| Unemployment | 39.8 | 35.6 | 36.8 | 25.8 |
| Unemployment Rate | 10.4% | 9.2% | 9.5% | 6.7% |

Economic Highlights And Employment Outlook:

The fourth quarter continued the seasonal upswing in unemployed persons. November experienced quite a sharp rise in unemployed workers, causing a higher unemployment rate than December. January is the start of what is usually the worst three months of the year for unemployment, as the forecasted 10.4 percent unemployment rate demonstrates. The weather often is a major factor in how bad unemployment will be during the winter months. Whether the economy pushes toward recovery or continues to slide will be a large factor this winter in unemployment.

Montana's economic activity actually worsened between 1981 and 1982. Not only would 35,000 unemployed Montanans like to put this past year behind them, but also would scores of others who experienced further depressed product prices and higher operating costs.

From an employment perspective, a real disaster occurred in 1982. For the first time since comparable record keeping was started in 1962, the total non-agricultural wage and salary employment failed to improve over the previous year's employment. The few areas that did have small employment increases are heavy construction, retail trade, health services, and State education. The biggest employment losers in 1982 were mining, oil and gas, general construction, nearly all manufacturing, and federal and local government.

Montana usually lags behind the nation in the contraction of business cycles. Also Montana's economy in most of the past recessions, has not been as severely affected as the nation. The current recession has Montana firmly locked into a struggling economy that coincides with the national despair and is as severe as the whole country. How fast will Montana's economy move toward prosperity as compared to the national picture? History tells us Montana usually

lags the nation in recovery. Hopefully Montana will buck the trend, but most likely not.

A problem plaguing recovery, probably more so than in past recessions, is the plight of those who have been laid off. People, companies, and government are accustomed to waiting out recessions and then happily resuming the old job. Many of those jobs are gone for good, and the workers won't be recalled as they were in bygone times when the economy began expanding.

Also, rehiring usually is a slow process in the rebuilding of the economy. Montana had about 35,000 unemployed in 1982 which is nearly 15,000 more than during the last recession of 1975. A reasonable recovery for the unemployed will probably take longer than the last recession.

Many of the predictions on how prosperity of the business cycle will evolve seem to indicate a slow growth pattern. Government factors will as usual play a major role. The Federal Reserve Board's concern for controlling inflation will hold a heavy hand in detaining rapid expansion. The federal government's huge national debt is considered a burden to recovery because much investment funds needed by the private sector will be used to finance the national debt. Also, inventories will be kept at low levels by businesses until confidence in a better economy exists.

Even if a recovery would soon start, there is an albatross hanging over the U.S. economy--that being the worldwide market. Fully one-fourth of all goods made in the United States are exported as are a large percentage of Montana's agricultural crops. Protectionism to stop or reduce imported goods could easily become part of the policy of worldwide countries. Also several countries are on the verge of large loan defaults. America's banks alone are vulnerable to more than $100 billion in loans. Another weakness in international trade is the high value of the dollar compared to other currencies--making foreign imports cheaper for American consumers and American exports more expensive for foreign buyers.

Not only does a recovery from the present recession appear to be a gradual process, but the whole decade of the 80's may well return to a slower growth pattern. The labor force expansion for Montana is anticipated to be slightly above 20 percent from 1980-1990. In the 1970-1980 period the labor force increased by 35 percent and the 1960-1970 growth was 8 percent. On the positive side, a slower growth often gives a more stable economy.

A major electrical power company revised their forecast of 3 percent to 2.6 percent for yearly electrical increases through 1995. Several expansion projects in the state have now been delayed, in-

cluding a four year delay to the 330-megawatt coal-fired project near Great Falls.

The bottomless pit that the lumber and woods industry has been experiencing is starting to demonstrate general signs of recovery. Lumber products are increasing in prices to some degree. Most housing industry analysts expect a 30 percent increase in nationwide housing starts in 1983. Employment is still unstable, but callbacks are starting to improve. Timber accounts for about 70 percent of the sawmill operating cost, so access to low-cost timber is critical to companies hoping for a quick rebound from the recession.

Although the number of oil and gas wells drilled in 1982 was fourth highest in the state's history, an extremely rapid decline of activity created economic chaos. A recent auction of several drilling rigs managed to bring $19,000 for rigs that cost $125,000 two years ago. In the heart of the Williston Basin, Richland County's unemployment rate escalated from 3.1 percent in December 1981 to 9.6 percent in December 1982. On the bright side, Richland County still has the best success ratio of wildcat drilling with 60 percent positive results.

In 1982 a westward shift of activity occurred in oil and gas development. The Sweetgrass Arch and adjacent Sweetgrass Hills overtook the Williston Basin in the total number of wells drilled. Seismic surveying and land leasing reached an all time peak in the western Montana Overthrust Belt.

"Copper is king" is a statement that has for many years floated around Butte, but now the saying might be changed to "copper is a culprit". The massive layoffs by the copper company will end with the last 700 employees losing their jobs by June. In June, 1983, a "suspension" will stop all remaining operations of the mining and processing of copper ore from the Berkeley Pit, concentrator and general office in Butte. Management will reopen their facilities when the price of copper makes mining profitable.

A weak agricultural economy has persisted for three years. The farmers outlook for the next year does not appear good because of the state's and nation's record crops in 1982 and an expected weak overseas market. The government has added another agricultural program called Payment In Kind (PIK). The farmer who wishes to set aside additional acreage will be paid with grain that is in government storage. The PIK program is aimed at reducing the surplus grain stock. The Payment In Kind program is a short-time solution to aid agriculture. The depressed agriculture status has affected manufacturers of farm equipment perhaps more than other manufacturing. Several bankruptcies were filed and large layoffs were the result. Agriculture equipment manufacturing in Montana has, for the most part, come into existence in just the past three years.

## GREAT FALLS SMSA

In 1982, two of the three months that had total building permits valued over one million dollars were in the fourth quarter. November's total value was the year's highest with $5.5 million. Also, November had the lowest number of residential permits for the year, with only one permit.

A realtors association noted strong real estate sales in the final quarter of 1982. A large number of sales have come from FHA and VA loans, which are sometimes easier to assume than other home loans. Average housing cost determined by the realtors has increased as follows: 1980-$47,609; 1981-$51,738; and 1982-$52,665.

The improvement of two hydroelectric dams and the building of a coal-fired power plant near Great Falls has been delayed. The power company noted a dwindling demand for power. When first announced, the $535.5 million, 330-megawatt power plant was expected to begin construction as early as 1985. Now 1990 has become the potential date to begin the project.

Expansion plans are aiding the construction industry. A tire dealer is adding 12,000 square feet of space for a truck tire center that will allow indoor changing. Several office buildings are being remodeled, including the Great Northern depot that will become an office for a gas company. Even a construction company decided to build a new office with a value of $1.25 million. An iron works structure that was built in 1908 has been converted into a restaurant and office space. About 70 people will be employed when the restaurant is fully operational.

A remodeling project just completed is a 64,000 square foot indoor mall in the downtown area. Eleven stores have opened or are in the process of completion. Nationally there is a growing acceptance of multi-level malls in downtown areas.

Great Falls International Airport has had a very active year. The first 10 month figures indicate a 35 percent increase in passengers over 1981. A big factor has been discount and reduced fares offered to travelers. Several months of the $10 fare war to Billings certainly was a boost. Also, another major airline began servicing the local airport in 1982.

Major cuts in staff are planned by the telephone company. In January, 85 personnel will be released and in August 1983, 100 ad-

ditional jobs will be lost in Great Falls. The job reductions are brought about primarily by computer technology and consolidating operations to Helena and Billings.

Directors of the Economic Growth Council have entered into serious negotiations with a Canadian manufacturer of agricultural implements. The firm's representatives have visited the Great Falls area many times. It could produce 40-50 new jobs in the Great Falls economy during 1983 and after production gears up, this number would increase to 85-90.

A new $50 million coal-fired heating plant for MAFB moved toward the construction phase with contracts to be let. Construction, which is expected to begin next spring will continue until the fall of 1985. None of the hiring for the construction will be done through the base, but will be done with the contractors being selected through competitive bidding.

## BILLINGS SMSA

The recession has not been as deep or as long here as it has been in the rest of the state or nationally. The unemployment rate for the area is about 2 percent greater than it was one year ago. This rate however, is about 3 percent lower than it is statewide. An increase in industrial activity will no doubt increase the demand for coal and oil and thus any economic recovery will probably be felt first in this area.

Manufacturing of nondurable goods reached its seasonal high employment during this quarter as the 1982 sugar campaign got into full swing. Sugar refining will continue through most of January with layoffs occuring for the seasonal people as soon as the beets from the fall harvest are gone. Beet price negotiations between one sugar company and the growers in the region have stalled. The company contends it lost $12 million dollars last year and may not operate its factories next year unless it gets better contract terms.

Building permits issued for the area in 1982 have surpassed 1981's both in number and in value. Total new construction through December of 1982 is 956 units valued at $51 million while 1981 had a total of 743 units valued at $33 million. Employment in construction trades however, was still estimated to be about 200 less than it was one year ago. With many projects in the planning and bidding stages the outlook for construction in 1983 continues to improve.

Some retail stores have been forced to close up shop due to a lack of business. Retailers report a late holiday season surge in buying that may help them turn a profit for the year.

City budget projections indicate a deficit of $2 million could be reached by 1984. Action to avoid these shortfalls are currently being considered by the local government. Alternatives being considered include: increasing the mill ceiling, raising service charges, enacting new taxes, significantly reducing city services and laying off more city employees.

## ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA

The main economic activity reported in the Anaconda-Butte LMA is a number of new businesses in the Butte area. At the same time businesses on main street are reporting little activity and layoffs. New businesses in Butte include services, trade, and finance insurance and real estate sectors. In the trade industry some new businesses are: an optical store, fruit and vegetables market, health food store, gift shop, women's wear store, used book store, used record store, gold and silver exchange store, and a wine and liquor store. New businesses in the service industry include a new chiropractic clinic, two new hair care centers which together employ 22 persons, a car wash, miniature golf course, tire repair shop, and a film developing shop. The Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate industry added three new businesses in the Butte area. They were, a real estate business employing 4 persons, a investment brokerage firm, and an insurance agency. Another new business in Butte is a freight terminal which will employ six persons.

A mining company in Butte posted layoff notices for 28 employees effective 11-5-82. Other manufacturing firms have fluctuated in hours and reported layoffs during the 4th quarter of 1982. In Butte, a grocery store chain laid off six persons in their general office. The layoffs were due to some of its stores closing in Wyoming. Also, a motel and restaurant reported the layoff of 23 persons due to a remodeling project in the restaurant.

In Deer Lodge a mill closed in mid-September affecting 70 employees. In Dillon, a hair styling shop has opened and a sporting goods store has reported going out of business. A long-time hardware store in Anaconda has closed. The reason for the closure was not necessarily due to bad economic times, but due to a business move back in 1979.

Reduced payrolls were reported by an industrial minerals company in Dillon which produces talc. The October layoffs were the result of an inventory build-up. There were 44 persons affected by this economic

slowdown. Later on in the fourth quarter four employees were recalled for maintenance.

Also in Dillon a lumber company announced the move to a four-day work week. The company also reported some layoffs for a period of one week. This is the story for most of the lumber and wood industry. Activity at the mills has been very sporadic.

A mining operation in Garrison shut down for a two week period and left nearly 100 persons out of work.

In Deer Lodge a 53 unit motel is under construction. The 49X245 foot structure is estimated to cost $897,684.

A $115,000 raquetball club is under construction at the country club in Butte. A new body shop is also going up in Butte, and a dental clinic for three dentists has been completed.

Overall the businesses in the Butte LMA have reported there is little activity and business is slower than expected for this time of year.

## BOZEMAN LMA

The last large-scale layoff in Livingston came in August when nearly 100 railroad workers were laid off. This reduced their work force to 377 compared to a 1979 peak of over 1,000 employees. Notices were issued again to another 119 that their jobs were going to be eliminated. The cuts are attributed to the economic recession and the company's plan to increase productivity and efficiency.

Early increases in the number of initial claims for unemployment insurance was noted as workers in Yellowstone National Park received their annual layoff notices.

Sawmill employment in Livingston has been very cyclical as the market for lumber and prices keeps fluctuating. One restaurant closed 10-23-82, a clothing store is going out of business and a retail clothing/sporting equipment business has closed.

A new bank building, a film and t.v. building, a sewage treatment plant, a new mini mall and a new Farm Bureau building are still under construction in Bozeman. Also construction started this fall on a new restaurant, plus the remodeling of two downtown business buildings.

Another project in the Gallatin Valley was reported as construction started in Logan on a new truck stop ... will employ 12-14 workers.

Forty (40) employees have been terminated by a local mining firm in Ennis. A major department store in Bozeman plans to close their doors on January 22,1983 ... will affect 50 employees. Due to a lack of logs 20 employees have been temporarily laid off from a local sawmill. In Three Forks a local manufacturer has "furloughed" 63 people as the "economy has finally caught up to them" due to "poor housing starts".

An electronics assembly plant announced that 65 individuals employed by them are currently working part time. They may have their hours increased, as additional electronic assembly units wil be transferred to Bozeman from two other locations ... the potential may increase their number of employees back to previous levels of 250.

Eleven new small business starts were reported this quarter in Bozeman ... anticipate employment of 33-35 new employees. A new auto repair shop and a new sausage factory opened recently in Belgrade ... employes 5-6 people. Approximately four employees will be hired in Ennis as a new restaurant opened for business.

Several openings for seasonal employees were reported by the Bozeman Job Service as two major ski areas opened due to early winter snow conditions in November.

## GLASGOW LMA

A gold mining operation near Zortman has laid off most of their staff. The annual quota of ore has been mined and with the low price on gold, the company is closing down the production until next spring.

Most construction projects have been halted by weather conditions. Inside work will continue on a 100 unit tribual housing project in the Wolf Point area.

A railroad affiliated truck transport company has closed its Glasgow office and has laid off three workers.

Also in Glasgow, a natural gas pipeline company has become fully operational and has established a maintenance office in Glasgow with a staff of about 15 workers. Retail trade and service sectors report business volume is generally below a year ago. Additional hiring during the Christmas season was minimal this year by the retail establishments.

## GLENDIVE LMA

Despite a decrease in the interest rate for common loans for new homes, local construction continues to slump and may not improve until spring of 1983 ... if then. A random survey conducted among local contractors and bankers revealed that the building industry has not benefited from the lower rate because of the depressed economy.

Although new home construction is down, there was some moderate commercial activity reported in this mideastern labor market area. A new $1,240,000 gymnasium is being constructed in Fairview for the East Fairview School and is targeted for completion by spring of 1983. The $1.4 million up-grade of a local grain elevator in Sidney is nearing completion. The modification of the facility will accomodate 52 car unit trains. It is anticipated to be in full operation by February 1, 1983.

A local firm in Glendive is building a pipeline to their storage tanks to store excess natural gas, plus a new roadway is under construction on Glendive's eastside.

Construction started in Sidney and Glendive on two new fast food restaurants. Each unit upon completion will accomodate approximately 50-60 new hires. Other projects included the building of a new warehouse office complex for a drilling company in Sidney, and some light remodeling of local business establishments.

The months of November and December had very little construction activity as winter weather had curtailed most jobs. Several contractors indicated that they are finding themselves with no anticipated jobs for the first time in 10-20 years.

The number of active oil drilling rigs working in Montana (including Williston Basin) has declined by 70% compared to 86 reported during the same period one year ago. This reduction in drilling activity continues to boost the unemployment rate in the LMA.

Callbacks by various drilling companies were temporary, primarily for them to maintain their leases. There was some work for various seismic crews, however it was sporadic due to weather conditions. Several Canadian drilling companies have moved their rigs to Canada due to more favorable programs adopted by the provincial governments.

The sugar beet harvest got off to a slow start due to bad weather conditions. By the third week of October the harvest ranged from 70-75% and by mid-November was about 98% finished. The delay in the harvesting of the beets also affected the manufacturing of the sugar, however it picked up and should continue into February.

In the retail/wholesale industry merchants were being cautious about hiring any new employees for the holiday season until they determined what the business trends were going to be like.

The number of business closures continue to be plagued by the economy in this area as a clothing store, a saddlery and a realty office closed their doors.

Hotels and motels are experiencing about 30-40% fewer occupancies compared to previous years. Although there were some brightners in the jobless picture for the months of July and August the area job situation for the last three months remains bleak as there were seven times the number of people out of jobs in the six-county area this year than last.

## HARDIN - RED LODGE LMA

The 1982 harvest of sugar beets was completed this quarter. Negotiations between the beet growers and a sugar company on the price for the 1983 crop have stalled. If a settlement is not reached the growers in the area probably won't plant any beets this year.

Coal deals are being explored by the Crow Indian tribe. They are looking into the development of a coal fired generating plant and perhaps a synthetic fuels project. Currently, however, adequate supplies of oil and natural gas have made these alternative energy projects less attractive. In 1982 production of coal in Montana did not reach projected levels and some mines in the area have laid off their work force.

## HAVRE LMA

A tractor manufacturing firm out of Havre is recalling some of its administrative personnel but has no plans for starting up production for a few months. The company is in the process of bidding on an Army Corps of Engineers job.

With only 9 employees working, a drilling rig manufacturing plant decided to close its doors. Previously the plant had employed 40 people. Plans are to reopen in a couple of years.

The Havre LMA reports a few business closures during the fourth quarter. They are: a Chinook clothing store, and a Havre bed and bath store, auto dealer, and department store.

Construction projects in Havre include two grain loading facilities. Also a remodeling project is underway at the College. Other construction projects in the Havre area are the Junior High School building and a new clinic.

Most new businesses in the area are trade related businesses. They include: a music and sound store, jewelry store, chinese restaurant, wig shop and a art gallery. Other new businesses includes two tax consulting businesses...One in Rudyard and one in Chinook and one in a new laundry center in Chinook. A new doctor has opened a practice in Havre. He is a head and neck specialist.

Employment may be coming to the Havre area. A bomber radar scoring site has been set up north of Havre and if funding is granted and the location is adequate, there may be 70 military personnel employed.

## HELENA LMA

A lime plant in the Townsend area reports that they are operational, and anticipates that they will be in full production by late November or early December. Twenty-one employees are working full time---more may be hired later depending on the demand for their product.

A local cement company announced plans to terminate 68 hourly employees early in January until the spring construction season. The shutdown is part of a trend nationwide prompted by the sluggish economy.

About 45 sawmill workers were laid off again in the Townsend area. The planer with 20 employees will continue that operation for another 6-8 weeks. The declining need for lumber and high interest rates are still troubling the sawmill industry.

The construction of the new Workers Compensation building got under full way this quarter. Meanwhile construction is continuing for a

local business machine company and the remodeling of two other downtown buildings is still progressing.

Despite the cold weather, roofers and other repairers continue to finish jobs created by the severe hail storm that caused heavy damage to home, cars, commercial buildings, and other property. Governmental agencies are still rifing employees due to the reduction of Federal & State funds as verified by the local Job Service office.

Forty-five workers with a local utility will be furloughed in December along with a local saw mill in Helena that will lay off 50-60 employees.

Bankruptcy was filed by a major clothing store in Helena. Their final day of operation was December 31, 1982. Another clothing store announced that they also will be folding this quarter.

Retail sales remained stable, probably due to the insurance money that was made available to home and commercial owners. Hunting season followed by the holiday season plus the influx of lawmakers and lobbyists appears to spur retail sales. However, hiring activities will be very modest as employers are still very cautious.

Early snow and cold weather play a dominant role in layoffs, especially outdoor employment. However winter recreational activities start to pick up especially for clothing and sport equipment stores, eating establishments, service stations etc. Nine regular, one temporary, and two employees on contracts started their employment at a local ski area.

## KALISPELL LMA

The Kalispell labor market area (LMA) is comprised of Flathead, Lincoln and Lake counties, essentially the extreme northwest corner of the state. The area's economy is largely dependent on lumber products, tourism, mining, small manufacturing, and associated retail and service businesses. The area's climate and beautiful surroundings attract many people looking for jobs....jobs which are extremely hard to come by.

The fourth quarter of 1982 started with 4858 people unemployed in the three counties (12.4% of the labor force), and ended with 5491 unemployed (14.1%).... making the Kalispell LMA the area with the highest unemployment rate in the state. Lincoln county's December rate was 19.4%, the second highest in the state.

Area businesses looked to Christmas buying, Christmas tree sales, and winter resort activity for a shot in the arm. Although retail/wholesale sales increased somewhat, the overall low state of the area economy kept them from being a real boom. Several new businesses opened, while others were closing down.

Agricultural businesses finished up harvests and prepared for the winter....except the Christmas tree industry. The demand for trees in the U.S. was only slightly decreased. However, new Mexican trade policies curtailed shipments of trees to Mexico. This caused a significant decrease in demand for wild grown trees.

Other wood products firms are still operating from week to week....waiting for demand to increase significantly. As interest rates have fallen somewhat demand is gradually picking up. By the end of the quarter many area firms were optimistic about recalling workers starting in January or February....hoping the increase in demand would be long term.

As normal, construction activity dropped off during the quarter due to weather. Looking at the year as a whole construction activity remained strong. The total spent on construction through November 1982 was $9.2 million compared to $6.4 million in 1981 and $9.9 million in 1980. Most of this activity came from multifamily housing and commercial projects. The residential activity was largely limited to remodels, and do-it-yourselfers' projects.

Winter activity resorts started hiring during the quarter with most looking for a good year....if the weather cooperates.

The Troy silver-copper mine continues to show a profit and gives employement to 340 area residents....putting $9.2 million annually into the area economy from payroll alone.

If interest rates stay down, spring may bring new life to the area's woods products and associated industries.

## LEWISTOWN LMA

Most components of the Lewistown area economy slowed during the fourth quarter. The major portion of this decrease in activity was the normal seasonal slowdown.

Agriculture slowed considerably as area farmers and ranchers finished up the harvest and other summer activities. Most ag activity

this quarter was in winter crop seeding and preparation for winter cattle feeding.

Area manufacturers were affected by the state and national economic slump. Two lumber mills closed completely until their inventories are decreased. About 45 workers have been idled by the temporary shutdowns. On the plus side, operations were nearly back to normal at the drywall plant, and an aircraft manufacturer is considering locating a plant in Lewistown.

Construction activity has generally slowed due to weather conditions. Most housing, street repair, and sewer projects have halted until better weather arrives. The inside remodeling of a Lewistown motel is continuing with a projected completion date of April/May 1983.

Christmas sales brought a much needed boost to area retailers. For many retailers this Christmas was a make or break situation. The next few months will tell if the Christmas sales volume was enough. Holiday sales couldn't have helped a Lewistown automobile dealer that closed permanently. Even with the slump in retailing several new businesses opened during the quarter. They were a variety store, video shop, appliance and t.v. store, and a sandwich shop.

## MILES CITY LMA

The unemployment rate for the area, while still less than the statewide rate, is much higher than it has been for several years. A worldwide surplus of fuel has caused layoffs in petroleum, natural gas and coal mining. This, in turn, affects the entire economy of the area. Many unemployed people continue to move into the area hoping to find work. When they are unable to find a job they file for unemployment benefits causing a dramatic increase in the number of Interstate Benefits being claimed at the local Job Service offices.

Construction experienced its normal seasonal slowdown this quarter as the weather became wet and cold. Very little work is going on with the exception of the continuing project of the coal fired generating plants at Colstrip. Thirteen building permits were issued in Miles City in November of this year compared with twenty in November of 1981.

Businesses throughout the area are feeling the effects of the slowdown in petroleum exploration. Several retail stores have cut back employee hours or laid people off. A few stores closed their doors due to lack of business. Christmas buying was about the same as last year, but not enough to make up for lack of sales over the rest of the year.

## MISSOULA LMA

As the prime interest rate continues to drop, real estate sales started an upward swing and the area's estimated September unemployment rate made a modest decrease of 0.6 percent from August's 10.2%. This trend provided some optimism that maybe the soft economy in the LMA area may soon show signs of steady recovery.

Just as rapid as the residential real estate sales increased in September, they began to start a dramatic drop downward in October. Sales remained low for the rest of the report period, with residential sales down by $4 million this year to date (October) and $51.6 million compared to 1981 sales (October).

Although prognosis of the economy may indicate that nationally we are bottoming out of the recession, the known fact locally is the Missoula area's economy is still in a deep slump.

The Missoula LMA includes Missoula, Mineral, Sanders and Ravalli counties. In this area the estimated unemployment rates for the months of October, November and December continued to climb. Traditionally unemployment rises this time of year and stays relatively high throughout the winter because of the type of industries that are affected such as construction, logging and tourism. Presently, three of the four counties in the LMA are represented in Montana's 6 counties that has the highest unemployment rates. They are: Mineral, Ravalli and Sanders counties.

Orders for lumber products are still below the trend for the rest of the lumber industry in the northwest, and projections are expected to remain "sub-par" through 1983.

Other contributing factors also help spur on the problems of high unemployment as railroad officials announced that they will trim their work force another 4% in the coming months. A local hardware store in Hamilton began it's liquidation sale ... an apparent victim of economic hard-times. A major sawmill in Sanders Co. has laid off 62 employees due to a lack of logs. An official in Superior indicated that if markets for lumber and chips do not improve, about 50 workers will be laid off as production ceases ... may eventually affect 125 employees.

The market for wood chips has toppled throughout the northwest as a local pulp mill has cut the price it pays for chips, and has curtailed the amount it buys from some 40 sawmills. The chips are a by-product

of lumber and usually makes the difference between profit and loss for the mills.

Ninety jobs involving an annual payroll of $1.3 million will be lost in Missoula as a local utility reorganizes their operations. Three employees were terminated as a local pizza shop closed. A home furnishing store in Lolo is closing after about two years of operations and a major car dealership has closed their doors. Additional layoffs were noted in the log home building industry despite the decrease in the mortgage rate ... new orders are not being received.

Some sectors of the local economy appear to be strengthening as retail sales appear to be up which may be an improvement in consumer confidence. However other economic indicators are basically unchanged, or showing mixed results.

On the bright side, the pulp mill in Missoula will resume full production by December 31, 1982. They will add 20 new entry-level jobs that will bring the number of employees to 700 when running at full capacity. An improved market for the liner board has created the demand to keep up production for at least one month.

A new log sale near Thompson Falls has brightened the holidays for some 40-50 workers ... should continue through the winter months. A new cookie factory in Missoula started production in mid-December with a crew of 10 employees ... eventually will expand to 80 within the near future.

Construction on new additions for two local hospitals is now underway. A new business venture recently hired 8 employees to work for a grocery warehouse that takes telephone orders and makes deliveries. A local plumbing firm received a bid of $254,000 to construct an underground irrigation project north of Stevensville. Work started in mid-October. Work on a new $1 million bank is nearing completion plus construction has started on a new water tank for the town of Thompson Falls.

Increased employment levels in the Hamilton area with the harvesting of apples and in Thompson Falls with a local tree nursery was noted in the ag industry.

Winter recreational activities started up for three ski areas: Lost Trail out of Hamilton, Marshall and Sno-Bowl in Missoula. Employment is expected to exceed 41 employees.

## SHELBY - CUT BANK LMA

A shovel manufacturing company in Chester is trying to get technical assistance through the Department of Commerce. The company was forced to file a Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization last spring. Since that time the firm has been closed.

In the Cut Bank area a local oilfield pumpjack manufacturer has plans for expansion. Now employing 8 persons, expansion may mean 25 employees. Oilfield activity has been minimal in other areas but expected to pick up as tribal officals and oil companies come to an agreement on mineral rights and taxation. Closures include an oil company in the Shelby area and a trailer manufacturer in Conrad.

Construction in the LMA includes five new homes in Cut Bank and continued work on the 20 duplexes and 2 laundry units in Browning. Shelby has a number of construction projects underway during the fourth quarter. They include: remodeling of the Civic Center, a $90,000 addition to a medical clinic, the Sunburst elementary school project which amounts to about $750,000, an office building amounting to $185,000 and a $47,000 warehouse project for a pop distributor.

Agriculture activity consisted of the completion of crop harvest and the hiring of some farm hands. The Shelby-Cut Bank LMA reports steady activity in the retail business during the 4th quarter.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U.S.

All Items

(1967=100)

| | 1980 | | 1981 | | 1982 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | CPI-U | CPI-W | CPI-U | CPI-W | CPI-U | CPI-W |
| January | 233.2 | 233.3 | 260.5 | 260.7 | 282.5 | 282.1 |
| February | 236.4 | 236.5 | 263.2 | 263.5 | 283.4 | 282.9 |
| March | 239.8 | 239.9 | 265.1 | 265.2 | 283.1 | 282.5 |
| April | 242.5 | 242.6 | 266.8 | 266.8 | 284.3 | 283.7 |
| May | 244.9 | 245.1 | 269.0 | 269.1 | 287.1 | 286.5 |
| June | 247.6 | 247.8 | 271.3 | 271.4 | 290.6 | 290.1 |
| July | 247.8 | 248.0 | 274.4 | 274.6 | 292.2 | 291.8 |
| August | 249.4 | 249.6 | 276.5 | 276.5 | 292.8 | 292.4 |
| September | 251.7 | 251.9 | 279.3 | 279.1 | 293.3 | 292.8 |
| October | 253.9 | 254.1 | 279.9 | 279.7 | 294.1 | 293.6 |
| November | 256.2 | 256.4 | 280.7 | 280.4 | 293.6 | 293.2 |
| December | 258.4 | 258.7 | 281.5 | 281.1 | 292.4 | 292.0 |
| Dec-to-Dec % | 12.4% | 12.5% | 8.9% | 8.7% | 3.9% | 3.9% |
| AVERAGE: | 246.8 | 247.0 | 272.4 | 272.3 | 289.1 | 288.6 |
| Ann Avg % | 13.5% | 13.5% | 10.4% | 10.2% | 6.1% | 6.0% |

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.

TABLE I

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

Not Seasonally Adjusted
(In Thousands)

| Date | Civilian Labor Force | Employment | | | Unemployment | | | Labor Manage -ment Dispute 2/ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Total | Non-Ag | Agri. | Total | Percent 1/ Montana | U.S. | |
| 1981 | | | | | | | | |
| January | 357.6 | 329.4 | 309.1 | 20.3 | 28.2 | 7.9% | 8.2% | * |
| February | 361.0 | 330.7 | 308.6 | 22.1 | 30.3 | 8.4% | 8.0% | .1 |
| March | 367.7 | 339.4 | 312.9 | 26.5 | 28.3 | 7.7% | 7.7% | * |
| April | 378.7 | 351.5 | 318.9 | 32.6 | 27.2 | 7.2% | 7.0% | * |
| May | 382.7 | 357.6 | 324.0 | 33.6 | 25.1 | 6.6% | 7.1% | .4 |
| June | 395.7 | 367.3 | 329.0 | 38.3 | 28.4 | 7.2% | 7.7% | .4 |
| July | 397.4 | 371.6 | 330.7 | 40.9 | 25.8 | 6.5% | 7.3% | .4 |
| August | 399.8 | 375.5 | 331.7 | 43.8 | 24.3 | 6.1% | 7.2% | .4 |
| September | 386.6 | 364.3 | 330.1 | 34.2 | 22.3 | 5.8% | 7.3% | * |
| October | 382.1 | 360.4 | 331.4 | 29.0 | 21.7 | 5.7% | 7.5% | * |
| November | 380.2 | 355.7 | 330.7 | 25.0 | 24.5 | 6.4% | 7.9% | * |
| December | 382.4 | 356.6 | 335.1 | 21.5 | 25.8 | 6.7% | 8.3% | * |
| Avg. | 381.0 | 355.0 | 324.4 | 30.6 | 26.0 | 6.9% | 7.6% | * |
| 1982 | | | | | | | | |
| January | 381.0 | 343.9 | 324.1 | 19.8 | 37.1 | 9.7% | 9.4% | * |
| February | 387.1 | 345.8 | 324.3 | 21.5 | 41.3 | 10.7% | 9.6% | * |
| March | 389.9 | 349.3 | 323.4 | 25.9 | 40.6 | 10.4% | 9.5% | * |
| April | 389.6 | 353.7 | 321.9 | 31.8 | 35.9 | 9.2% | 9.2% | * |
| May | 389.3 | 356.2 | 323.4 | 32.8 | 33.1 | 8.5% | 9.1% | .8 |
| June | 396.4 | 360.5 | 323.2 | 37.3 | 35.9 | 9.1% | 9.8% | * |
| July | 387.8 | 359.4 | 316.6 | 42.8 | 30.2 | 8.5% | 9.6% | * |
| August | 389.5 | 359.4 | 316.6 | 42.8 | 30.2 | 7.7% | 9.6% | * |
| September | 387.6 | 358.8 | 325.5 | 33.3 | 28.9 | 7.4% | 9.7% | * |
| October | 387.7 | 355.6 | 327.3 | 28.3 | 32.1 | 8.3% | 9.9% | * |
| November | 388.3 | 351.5 | 327.1 | 24.4 | 36.8 | 9.5% | 10.4% | * |
| December | 385.6 | 350.0 | 329.0 | 21.0 | 35.6 | 9.2% | 10.5% | * |
| Avg. | 388.1 | 353.1 | 323.0 | 30.1 | 35.0 | 9.0% | | * |
| 1983 | | | | | | | | |
| January | 381.2 | 341.4 | 322.1 | 19.3 | 39.8 | 10.4% | | * |
| February | | | | | | | | |
| March | | | | | | | | |
| April | | | | | | | | |
| May | | | | | | | | |
| June | | | | | | | | |
| July | | | | | | | | |
| August | | | | | | | | |
| September | | | | | | | | |
| October | | | | | | | | |
| November | | | | | | | | |
| December | | | | | | | | |
| Avg. | | | | | | | | |

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded numbers). Series began January 1970.
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. Revised to 1981 Benchmarks.
* Under 50. Current month is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

TABLE II

M O N T A N A

Statewide Employment by Industry
(In Thousands)

| INDUSTRY | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 | Net Changes to Current Month from: Nov. 1982 | Dec. 1981 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (Residence Data) | | | | | |
| CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/ | 385.6 | 388.3 | 387.7 | -2.7 | 3.2 |
| EMPLOYED PERSONS | 350.0 | 351.5 | 355.6 | -1.5 | -6.6 |
| Persons Employed in Agriculture | 21.0 | 24.4 | 28.3 | -3.4 | -.5 |
| UNEMPLOYED PERSONS | 35.6 | 36.8 | 32.1 | -1.2 | 9.8 |
| Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted 2/ | 9.2% | 9.5% | 8.3% | -.3 | 2.5 |
| Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted 2/ | 9.0% | 9.9% | 9.4% | -.9 | 2.5 |
| (Establishment Data) | | | | | |
| NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS | 279.2 | 280.6 | 282.7 | -1.4 | -13.3 |
| MANUFACTURING | 20.1 | 20.8 | 21.7 | -.7 | -3.7 |
| Durable Goods | 11.1 | 11.7 | 12.3 | -.6 | -3.6 |
| 24 Lumber and Wood Products | 7.0 | 7.4 | 7.5 | -.4 | -2.2 |
| 33 Primary Metal Industries | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.7 | 0 | -.4 |
| Other Durable Goods | 2.5 | 2.7 | 3.1 | -.2 | -1.0 |
| Nondurable Goods | 9.1 | 9.1 | 9.5 | 0 | -.1 |
| 20 Food and Kindred Products | 3.9 | 3.9 | 4.2 | 0 | -.2 |
| 27 Printing and Publishing | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 0 | -.1 |
| 29 Petroleum and Coal Products | .9 | .9 | 1.0 | 0 | .1 |
| Other Nondurable Goods | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 0 | .2 |
| MINING | 9.2 | 9.7 | 9.8 | -.5 | -2.9 |
| 10 Metal Mining | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 0 | -.3 |
| 12&14 Bitum. Coal,Quarrying,Non-Metal Mining | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.2 | 0 | -.3 |
| 13 Oil and Gas Extraction | 5.1 | 5.5 | 5.7 | -.4 | -2.4 |
| CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION | 11.9 | 12.6 | 13.8 | -.7 | -1.9 |
| 15 General Building Contractors | 3.1 | 3.5 | 4.3 | -.4 | -1.3 |
| 16 Heavy Construction Contractors | 3.6 | 4.0 | 4.4 | -.4 | -.3 |
| 17 Special Trade Contractors | 5.2 | 5.1 | 5.1 | .1 | -.3 |
| TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES | 22.2 | 21.5 | 21.9 | .7 | -.8 |
| 40 Railroad Transportation | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.1 | 0 | -.3 |
| 41-47 Transportation, except Railroad | 8.0 | 7.4 | 7.6 | .6 | .7 |
| 48&49 Commun.,Electric,Gas,Sanitary Services | 9.2 | 9.2 | 9.2 | 0 | -1.2 |
| WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE | 75.6 | 76.8 | 77.3 | -1.2 | -1.8 |
| Wholesale Trade | 18.2 | 18.1 | 18.3 | .1 | -.4 |
| Retail Trade | 57.4 | 58.7 | 59.0 | -1.3 | -1.4 |
| 53&56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Access | 8.9 | 8.7 | 8.3 | .2 | -1.2 |
| 54 Food Stores | 7.6 | 7.8 | 7.7 | -.2 | -.7 |
| 55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations | 7.0 | 7.2 | 7.4 | -.2 | -.6 |
| 58 Eating and Drinking Places | 23.1 | 23.7 | 24.3 | -.6 | 1.0 |
| 52,57,59 Bldg. Mat.,Farm Equip.,Furn.,Misc | 10.9 | 11.3 | 11.3 | -.4 | .1 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE | 12.0 | 12.0 | 12.0 | 0 | -.7 |
| SERVICES | 56.6 | 56.0 | 56.1 | .6 | -1.1 |
| 70 Hotels and other Lodging Places | 7.2 | 6.9 | 6.5 | .3 | -.8 |
| 72 Personal Services | 2.6 | 2.7 | 2.7 | -.1 | -.1 |
| 80 Medical and other Health Services | 20.4 | 20.3 | 20.2 | .1 | .3 |
| Other Services | 26.2 | 26.2 | 26.6 | 0 | -.7 |
| GOVERNMENT | 71.6 | 71.2 | 70.0 | .4 | -.3 |
| 91 Federal Government | 13.4 | 13.6 | 13.4 | -.2 | -.6 |
| 92 State Colleges and Universities | 10.7 | 10.7 | 10.5 | 0 | 2.2 |
| 92 Other State Government | 10.2 | 10.2 | 10.3 | 0 | .4 |
| 93 Local Education | 24.7 | 24.1 | 23.2 | .6 | -.2 |
| 93 Other Local Government | 12.5 | 12.5 | 12.7 | 0 | -2.2 |

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1981 Benchmarks.
2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

TABLE III-A

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

(In Thousands)

| INDUSTRY | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 | Net Changes to Current Month from: Nov. 1982 | Dec. 1981 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (Residence Data) | | | | | |
| CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/ | 62.2 | 61.9 | 61.9 | .3 | 2.7 |
| EMPLOYED PERSONS | 58.0 | 57.8 | 58.2 | .2 | 1.0 |
| Persons Employed in Agriculture | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.3 | -.1 | 0 |
| UNEMPLOYED PERSONS | 4.2 | 4.1 | 3.7 | .1 | 1.7 |
| Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted 2/ | 6.7% | 6.6% | 5.9% | .1 | 2.6 |
| Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted 2/ | 6.7% | 7.1% | 6.8% | -.4 | 2.6 |
| (Establishment Data) | | | | | |
| NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS | 49.1 | 49.3 | 49.5 | -.2 | -.2 |
| Manufacturing | 4.0 | 4.1 | 4.4 | -.1 | -.4 |
| Contract Construction | 2.3 | 2.6 | 2.4 | -.3 | -.2 |
| Transportation and Public Utilities | 4.6 | 4.3 | 2.4 | .3 | .1 |
| Trade | 16.1 | 16.2 | 16.3 | -.1 | -.3 |
| Wholesale Trade | 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.3 | -.1 | -.2 |
| Retail Trade | 10.8 | 10.9 | 11.0 | -.1 | -.2 |
| Finance, Insurance and Real Estate | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 0 | 0 |
| Services and Mining | 11.3 | 11.5 | 11.4 | -.2 | -.2 |
| Government | 8.3 | 8.1 | 8.1 | .2 | .8 |
| Federal Government | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 0 | .1 |
| State and Local Government | 6.5 | 6.3 | 6.4 | .2 | .7 |

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1981 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

TABLE III-B

GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County)

Employment by Industry

(In Thousands)

| INDUSTRY | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 | Net Changes to Current Month from: Nov. 1982 | Dec. 1981 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (Residence Data) | | | | | |
| CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/ | 35.0 | 35.5 | 38.5 | -.5 | -.1 |
| EMPLOYED PERSONS | 32.1 | 32.2 | 32.5 | -.1 | -.7 |
| Persons Employed in Agriculture | .8 | 1.0 | 1.1 | -.2 | 0 |
| UNEMPLOYED PERSONS | 2.9 | 3.3 | 2.9 | -.4 | .6 |
| Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted 2/ | 8.3% | 9.2% | 8.3% | -.9 | 1.9 |
| Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted 2/ | 8.3% | 9.6% | 9.2% | -1.3 | 1.9 |
| (Establishment Data) | | | | | |
| NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS | 28.7 | 29.0 | 29.2 | -.3 | -1.7 |
| Manufacturing | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0 | -.2 |
| Contract Construction | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.6 | -.1 | -.2 |
| Transportation and Public Utilities | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 0 | .1 |
| Trade | 9.5 | 9.6 | 9.8 | -.1 | -.7 |
| Wholesale Trade | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 0 | -.1 |
| Retail Trade | 6.5 | 6.6 | 6.7 | -.1 | -.5 |
| Finance, Insurance and Real Estate | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 0 | -.3 |
| Services and Mining | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.2 | -.1 | 0 |
| Government | 5.2 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 0 | -.5 |
| Federal Government | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0 | .1 |
| State and Local Government | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3.6 | 0 | -.5 |

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1981 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

TABLE IV

Montana Labor Market Areas 1/

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

| | Civilian Labor Force | | | Employment | | | Unemployment | | | Unemployment Rate 2/ | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 |
| STATEWIDE | 385.6 | 388.3 | 387.7 | 350.0 | 351.5 | 355.6 | 35.6 | 36.8 | 32.1 | 9.2 | 9.5 | 8.3 |
| Great Falls SMSA | 35.0 | 35.5 | 35.4 | 32.1 | 32.2 | 32.5 | 2.9 | 3.3 | 2.9 | 8.3 | 9.2 | 8.3 |
| Billings SMSA | 62.2 | 61.9 | 61.9 | 58.0 | 57.8 | 58.2 | 4.2 | 4.1 | 3.7 | 6.7 | 6.6 | 5.9 |
| Western District 3/ | 196.7 | 198.0 | 195.7 | 175.4 | 175.7 | 176.9 | 21.3 | 22.3 | 18.8 | 10.8 | 11.3 | 9.6 |
| Eastern District | 188.9 | 190.3 | 192.0 | 174.6 | 175.8 | 178.7 | 14.3 | 14.5 | 13.3 | 7.6 | 7.6 | 6.9 |
| ANACONDA-BUTTE | 33.9 | 34.2 | 33.9 | 30.1 | 29.9 | 30.3 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 3.6 | 11.2 | 12.6 | 10.6 |
| BOZEMAN | 28.9 | 28.8 | 28.3 | 26.3 | 26.1 | 26.3 | 2.6 | 2.7 | 2.0 | 9.1 | 9.3 | 7.2 |
| GLASGOW | 17.6 | 17.9 | 18.3 | 16.2 | 16.5 | 17.0 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 8.1 | 8.0 | 7.0 |
| GLENDIVE | 17.7 | 17.7 | 18.0 | 16.2 | 16.2 | 16.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 8.6 | 8.6 | 8.2 |
| HARDIN-RED LODGE | 12.1 | 12.4 | 12.9 | 11.1 | 11.4 | 12.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | .9 | 8.2 | 8.2 | 7.0 |
| HAVRE | 12.9 | 13.0 | 13.1 | 11.9 | 11.9 | 12.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 8.1 | 8.4 | 7.7 |
| HELENA | 30.9 | 31.0 | 30.0 | 28.5 | 28.4 | 27.9 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 2.1 | 7.9 | 8.3 | 7.1 |
| KALISPELL | 39.0 | 39.2 | 39.2 | 33.5 | 33.7 | 34.3 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 4.9 | 14.1 | 13.9 | 12.4 |
| LEWISTOWN | 11.0 | 11.3 | 11.5 | 10.1 | 10.4 | 10.7 | .9 | .9 | .8 | 8.5 | 7.8 | 7.2 |
| MILES CITY | 17.6 | 17.8 | 18.0 | 16.5 | 16.7 | 16.9 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 6.4 | 6.2 | 6.0 |
| MISSOULA | 49.1 | 49.6 | 48.9 | 43.3 | 43.6 | 43.9 | 5.8 | 6.0 | 5.0 | 11.8 | 12.0 | 10.2 |
| SHELBY-CUT BANK | 17.7 | 17.9 | 18.3 | 16.4 | 16.5 | 17.0 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 7.4 | 8.0 | 7.3 |

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on map on inside back cover.
2/ Unemployment Rate is calculated on unrounded numbers.
3/ Western congressional district includes Anaconda-Butte, Bozeman, Helena, Kalispell, Missoula, and Shelby-Cut Bank less Chouteau County.

TABLE V-A

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA DECEMBER 1982

| COUNTY | CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE | EMPLOYMENT | UNEMPLOYMENT | PERCENT RATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| STATEWIDE | 385581 | 349985 | 35596 | 9.2 |
| CASCADE | 34973 | 32064 | 2909 | 8.3 |
| YELLOWSTONE | 62186 | 57992 | 4194 | 6.7 |
| BEAVERHEAD | 4252 | 3941 | 311 | 7.3 |
| BIG HORN | 5075 | 4603 | 472 | 9.3 |
| BLAINE | 2913 | 2596 | 317 | 10.9 |
| BROADWATER | 1735 | 1570 | 165 | 9.5 |
| CARBON | 3270 | 3035 | 235 | 7.2 |
| CARTER | 764 | 728 | 36 | 4.7 |
| CHOUTEAU | 2654 | 2534 | 120 | 4.5 |
| CUSTER | 6137 | 5719 | 418 | 6.8 |
| DANIELS | 1498 | 1428 | 70 | 4.7 |
| DAWSON | 6741 | 6143 | 598 | 8.9 |
| DEER LODGE | 4966 | 4301 | 665 | 13.4 |
| FALLON | 2425 | 2301 | 124 | 5.1 |
| FERGUS | 5843 | 5338 | 505 | 8.6 |
| FLATHEAD | 24016 | 20783 | 3233 | 13.5 |
| GALLATIN | 22091 | 20338 | 1753 | 7.9 |
| GARFIELD | 819 | 793 | 26 | 3.2 |
| GLACIER | 5660 | 4986 | 674 | 11.9 |
| GOLDEN VALLEY | 369 | 337 | 32 | 8.7 |
| GRANITE | 1085 | 957 | 128 | 11.8 |
| HILL | 9018 | 8343 | 675 | 7.5 |
| JEFFERSON | 2683 | 2364 | 319 | 11.9 |
| JUDITH BASIN | 1064 | 990 | 74 | 7.0 |
| LAKE | 7955 | 7062 | 893 | 11.2 |
| LEWIS AND CLARK | 26460 | 24520 | 1940 | 7.3 |
| LIBERTY | 991 | 942 | 49 | 4.9 |
| LINCOLN | 7021 | 5656 | 1365 | 19.4 |
| MC CONE | 1266 | 1232 | 34 | 2.7 |
| MADISON | 2433 | 2192 | 241 | 9.9 |
| MEAGHER | 1089 | 941 | 148 | 13.6 |
| MINERAL | 1675 | 1176 | 499 | 29.8 |
| MISSOULA | 35458 | 32162 | 3296 | 9.3 |
| MUSSELSHELL | 2235 | 2008 | 227 | 10.2 |
| PARK | 5749 | 5011 | 738 | 12.8 |
| PETROLEUM | 268 | 258 | 10 | 3.7 |
| PHILLIPS | 2735 | 2430 | 305 | 11.2 |
| PONDERA | 3442 | 3247 | 195 | 5.7 |
| POWDER RIVER | 1242 | 1185 | 57 | 4.6 |
| POWELL | 3218 | 2855 | 363 | 11.3 |
| PRAIRIE | 748 | 699 | 49 | 6.6 |
| RAVALLI | 8184 | 6895 | 1289 | 15.8 |
| RICHLAND | 7427 | 6715 | 712 | 9.6 |
| ROOSEVELT | 5436 | 5048 | 388 | 7.1 |
| ROSEBUD | 6692 | 6224 | 468 | 7.0 |
| SANDERS | 3739 | 3019 | 720 | 19.3 |
| SHERIDAN | 3541 | 3302 | 239 | 6.7 |
| SILVER BOW | 17895 | 15819 | 2076 | 11.6 |
| STILLWATER | 2312 | 2089 | 223 | 9.6 |
| SWEET GRASS | 1407 | 1342 | 65 | 4.6 |
| TETON | 3030 | 2864 | 166 | 5.5 |
| TOOLE | 2906 | 2746 | 160 | 5.5 |
| TREASURE | 394 | 373 | 21 | 5.3 |
| VALLEY | 4445 | 4023 | 422 | 9.5 |
| WHEATLAND | 1274 | 1186 | 88 | 6.9 |
| WIBAUX | 677 | 580 | 97 | 14.3 |

TABLE V-B

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
NOVEMBER 1982

| COUNTY | CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE | EMPLOYMENT | UNEMPLOYMENT | PERCENT RATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| STATEWIDE | 388308 | 351498 | 36810 | 9.5 |
| CASCADE | 35524 | 32247 | 3277 | 9.2 |
| YELLOWSTONE | 61842 | 57789 | 4053 | 6.6 |
| BEAVERHEAD | 4389 | 4049 | 340 | 7.7 |
| BIG HORN | 5364 | 4867 | 497 | 9.3 |
| BLAINE | 2924 | 2612 | 312 | 10.7 |
| BROADWATER | 1696 | 1546 | 150 | 8.8 |
| CARBON | 3224 | 2981 | 243 | 7.5 |
| CARTER | 798 | 768 | 30 | 3.8 |
| CHOUTEAU | 2745 | 2640 | 105 | 3.8 |
| CUSTER | 6115 | 5760 | 355 | 5.8 |
| DANIELS | 1496 | 1455 | 41 | 2.7 |
| DAWSON | 6729 | 6142 | 587 | 8.7 |
| DEER LODGE | 4929 | 4204 | 725 | 14.7 |
| FALLON | 2393 | 2281 | 112 | 4.7 |
| FERGUS | 5984 | 5493 | 491 | 8.2 |
| FLATHEAD | 24024 | 20740 | 3284 | 13.7 |
| GALLATIN | 21873 | 20100 | 1773 | 8.1 |
| GARFIELD | 844 | 826 | 18 | 2.1 |
| GLACIER | 5770 | 4995 | 775 | 13.4 |
| GOLDEN VALLEY | 392 | 373 | 19 | 4.8 |
| GRANITE | 1144 | 980 | 164 | 14.3 |
| HILL | 9064 | 8322 | 742 | 8.2 |
| JEFFERSON | 2723 | 2412 | 311 | 11.4 |
| JUDITH BASIN | 1153 | 1071 | 82 | 7.1 |
| LAKE | 8004 | 7124 | 880 | 11.0 |
| LEWIS AND CLARK | 26522 | 24425 | 2097 | 7.9 |
| LIBERTY | 1032 | 988 | 44 | 4.3 |
| LINCOLN | 7103 | 5816 | 1287 | 18.1 |
| MC CONE | 1324 | 1265 | 59 | 4.5 |
| MADISON | 2490 | 2257 | 233 | 9.4 |
| MEAGHER | 1116 | 980 | 136 | 12.2 |
| MINERAL | 1766 | 1288 | 478 | 27.1 |
| MISSOULA | 35745 | 32206 | 3539 | 9.9 |
| MUSSELSHELL | 2217 | 2012 | 205 | 9.2 |
| PARK | 5808 | 5049 | 759 | 13.1 |
| PETROLEUM | 278 | 273 | 5 | 1.8 |
| PHILLIPS | 2810 | 2504 | 306 | 10.9 |
| PONDERA | 3484 | 3286 | 198 | 5.7 |
| POWDER RIVER | 1299 | 1231 | 68 | 5.2 |
| POWELL | 3372 | 2875 | 497 | 14.7 |
| PRAIRIE | 772 | 726 | 46 | 6.0 |
| RAVALLI | 8315 | 7017 | 1298 | 15.6 |
| RICHLAND | 7408 | 6663 | 745 | 10.1 |
| ROOSEVELT | 5516 | 5064 | 452 | 8.2 |
| ROSEBUD | 6809 | 6282 | 527 | 7.7 |
| SANDERS | 3778 | 3131 | 647 | 17.1 |
| SHERIDAN | 3564 | 3357 | 207 | 5.8 |
| SILVER BOW | 17952 | 15583 | 2369 | 13.2 |
| STILLWATER | 2328 | 2111 | 217 | 9.3 |
| SWEET GRASS | 1466 | 1411 | 55 | 3.8 |
| TETON | 3037 | 2896 | 141 | 4.6 |
| TOOLE | 2937 | 2721 | 216 | 7.4 |
| TREASURE | 406 | 392 | 14 | 3.4 |
| VALLEY | 4541 | 4106 | 435 | 9.6 |
| WHEATLAND | 1284 | 1199 | 85 | 6.6 |
| WIBAUX | 686 | 607 | 79 | 11.5 |

TABLE V-C

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
OCTOBER 1982

| COUNTY | CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE | EMPLOYMENT | UNEMPLOYMENT | PERCENT RATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| STATEWIDE | 387778 | 355642 | 32136 | 8.3 |
| CASCADE | 35452 | 32517 | 2935 | 8.3 |
| YELLOWSTONE | 61828 | 58169 | 3659 | 5.9 |
| BEAVERHEAD | 4509 | 4279 | 230 | 5.1 |
| BIG HORN | 5637 | 5174 | 463 | 8.2 |
| BLAINE | 2971 | 2707 | 264 | 8.9 |
| BROADWATER | 1708 | 1578 | 130 | 7.6 |
| CARBON | 3305 | 3082 | 223 | 6.7 |
| CARTER | 872 | 828 | 44 | 5.0 |
| CHOUTEAU | 2927 | 2801 | 126 | 4.3 |
| CUSTER | 6118 | 5800 | 318 | 5.2 |
| DANIELS | 1546 | 1513 | 33 | 2.1 |
| DAWSON | 6718 | 6194 | 524 | 7.8 |
| DEER LODGE | 4727 | 4081 | 646 | 13.7 |
| FALLON | 2523 | 2336 | 187 | 7.4 |
| FERGUS | 6113 | 5623 | 490 | 8.0 |
| FLATHEAD | 24083 | 21171 | 2912 | 12.1 |
| GALLATIN | 21456 | 20097 | 1359 | 6.3 |
| GARFIELD | 893 | 863 | 30 | 3.4 |
| GLACIER | 5854 | 5093 | 761 | 13.0 |
| GOLDEN VALLEY | 409 | 388 | 21 | 5.1 |
| GRANITE | 1142 | 1017 | 125 | 10.9 |
| HILL | 9101 | 8386 | 715 | 7.9 |
| JEFFERSON | 2666 | 2439 | 227 | 8.5 |
| JUDITH BASIN | 1193 | 1125 | 68 | 5.7 |
| LAKE | 8038 | 7285 | 753 | 9.4 |
| LEWIS AND CLARK | 25695 | 23910 | 1785 | 6.9 |
| LIBERTY | 1062 | 1032 | 30 | 2.8 |
| LINCOLN | 6999 | 5806 | 1193 | 17.0 |
| MC CONE | 1365 | 1317 | 48 | 3.5 |
| MADISON | 2537 | 2400 | 137 | 5.4 |
| MEAGHER | 1080 | 989 | 91 | 8.4 |
| MINERAL | 1741 | 1482 | 259 | 14.9 |
| MISSOULA | 35156 | 32119 | 3037 | 8.6 |
| MUSSELSHELL | 2211 | 2057 | 154 | 7.0 |
| PARK | 5775 | 5199 | 576 | 10.0 |
| PETROLEUM | 298 | 287 | 11 | 3.7 |
| PHILLIPS | 2835 | 2625 | 210 | 7.4 |
| PONDERA | 3535 | 3373 | 162 | 4.6 |
| POWDER RIVER | 1337 | 1280 | 57 | 4.3 |
| POWELL | 3187 | 2872 | 315 | 9.9 |
| PRAIRIE | 795 | 769 | 26 | 3.3 |
| RAVALLI | 8297 | 7157 | 1140 | 13.7 |
| RICHLAND | 7490 | 6718 | 772 | 10.3 |
| ROOSEVELT | 5569 | 5114 | 455 | 8.2 |
| ROSEBUD | 6642 | 6201 | 441 | 6.6 |
| SANDERS | 3761 | 3180 | 581 | 15.4 |
| SHERIDAN | 3689 | 3504 | 185 | 5.0 |
| SILVER BOW | 17803 | 15659 | 2144 | 12.0 |
| STILLWATER | 2346 | 2205 | 141 | 6.0 |
| SWEET GRASS | 1575 | 1498 | 77 | 4.9 |
| TETON | 3163 | 3037 | 126 | 4.0 |
| TOOLE | 2902 | 2739 | 163 | 5.6 |
| TREASURE | 435 | 409 | 26 | 6.0 |
| VALLEY | 4644 | 4251 | 393 | 8.5 |
| WHEATLAND | 1330 | 1240 | 90 | 6.8 |
| WIBAUX | 735 | 667 | 68 | 9.3 |

TABLE VI

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

| | FEMALE EMPLOYMENT | | | TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | DEC. 1982 1/ | | NOV. 1982 | | OCT. 1982 | |
| | DEC. 1/ 1982 | NOV. 1982 | OCT. 1982 | TOTAL | PERCENT FEMALE | TOTAL | PERCENT FEMALE | TOTAL | PERCENT FEMALE |
| (Establishment Data) | | | | | | | | | |
| Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers. | 134.0 | 133.9 | 132.9 | 279.2 | 48.0% | 280.6 | 47.7% | 282.7 | 47.0% |
| Manufacturing..... | 2.8 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 20.1 | 13.9% | 20.8 | 13.5% | 21.7 | 13.4% |
| Mining..... | .4 | .4 | .4 | 9.2 | 4.3% | 9.7 | 4.1% | 9.8 | 4.1% |
| Contract Construction..... | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 11.9 | 16.0% | 12.6 | 15.1% | 13.8 | 13.8% |
| Transportation & Public Utilities..... | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 22.2 | 19.8% | 21.5 | 20.5% | 21.9 | 20.1% |
| Wholesale & Retail Trade..... | 33.9 | 34.0 | 33.8 | 75.6 | 44.8% | 76.8 | 44.3% | 77.3 | 43.7% |
| Finance, Insurance & Real Estate..... | 8.0 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 12.0 | 66.7% | 12.0 | 66.7% | 12.0 | 66.7% |
| Services..... | 38.8 | 38.7 | 38.3 | 56.6 | 68.6% | 56.0 | 69.1% | 56.1 | 68.3% |
| Government 2/..... | 43.8 | 43.8 | 43.2 | 71.6 | 61.2% | 71.2 | 61.5% | 70.0 | 61.7% |

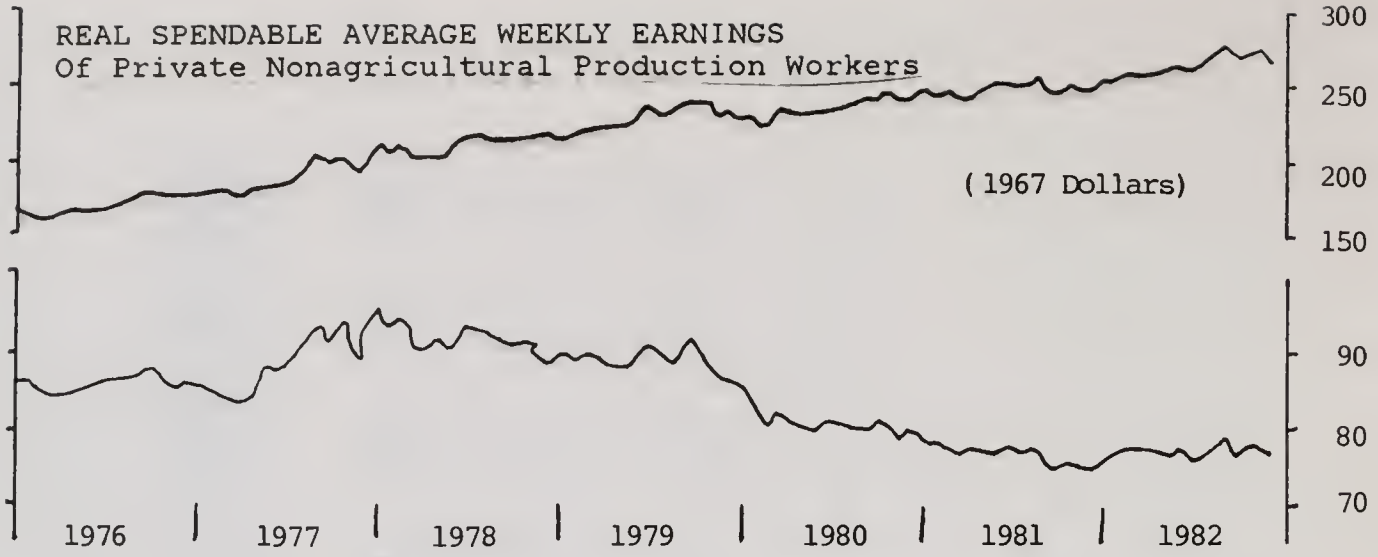
1/ Current month preliminary.

2/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

Revised to 1981 Benchmarks. Establishment series began January 1974.

Prepared by the Department of Labor and Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau.

# ECONOMIC INDICATORS




| | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gross Average Weekly Earnings | $266.40 | $269.92 | $272.57 |
| Taxes Withheld 3/ | 42.84 | 43.76 | 44.44 |
| Spendable Earnings | 223.56 | 226.16 | 228.13 |
| Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967 | 147.00 | 149.02 | 150.43 |
| Real Spendable Earnings | 76.56 | 77.14 | 77.70 |

| | 1) Average Weekly Earnings | | | 2) Real Spendable Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1982 | 1981 | 1980 | 1982 | 1981 | 1980 |
| January | 255.84 | 245.28 | 232.60 | 76.47 | 78.44 | 84.36 |
| February | 258.96 | 247.52 | 224.93 | 77.07 | 78.20 | 80.79 |
| March | 258.82 | 244.84 | 234.24 | 77.15 | 76.99 | 82.44 |
| April | 259.29 | 248.29 | 232.23 | 76.94 | 77.45 | 80.94 |
| May | 263.76 | 249.48 | 234.15 | 77.17 | 77.09 | 80.67 |
| June | 263.50 | 254.14 | 234.97 | 76.32 | 77.65 | 80.02 |
| July | 269.25 | 254.46 | 238.82 | 77.34 | 77.48 | 81.08 |
| August | 277.03 | 255.20 | 239.47 | 79.15 | 77.08 | 80.75 |
| September | 267.59 | 249.90 | 241.60 | 76.65 | 75.00 | 80.63 |
| October | 272.57 | 251.66 | 246.66 | 77.70 | 75.29 | 81.37 |
| November | 269.92 | 250.99 | 241.89 | 77.14 | 74.98 | 79.29 |
| December | 266.40 | 253.08 | 247.75 | 76.56 | 75.28 | 80.21 |

Real Spendable Earnings

Real spendable average weekly earnings have been fluctuating between $76.32 and $79.15 during 1982. The October number rose to $77.70 then dropped to $77.14 in November. The preliminary December number dropped to $76.56. Gross average weekly earnings had been rising gradually through August of 1982, then started coming down again through November. Preliminary indications reflect the December gross earnings continued to drop close to a July 1982 level.

- - - -

TABLE VII

MONTANA HOURS & EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

| | Average Weekly Earnings | | | Average Weekly Hours | | | Average Hourly Earnings | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 |
| TOTAL PRIVATE..... | $266.40 | $269.92 | $272.57 | 33.3 | 33.2 | 33.2 | 8.00 | 8.13 | 8.21 |
| MANUFACTURING..... | 399.00 | 390.00 | 396.21 | 39.9 | 39.0 | 39.9 | 10.00 | 10.00 | 9.93 |
| Durable Goods..... | 442.82 | 436.05 | 429.60 | 40.7 | 40.3 | 40.0 | 10.88 | 10.82 | 10.74 |
| Primary Metal Industries.. | 511.92 | 531.60 | 511.29 | 43.2 | 44.3 | 43.7 | 11.85 | 12.00 | 11.70 |
| Nondurable Goods..... | 327.71 | 312.32 | 345.86 | 38.6 | 36.7 | 39.8 | 8.49 | 8.51 | 8.69 |
| Food & Kindred Products... | 310.80 | 292.35 | 315.52 | 40.0 | 37.1 | 40.4 | 7.77 | 7.88 | 7.81 |
| MINING..... | 539.65 | 555.03 | 514.18 | 43.0 | 43.6 | 41.3 | 12.55 | 12.73 | 12.45 |
| Metal Mining..... | 563.37 | 641.68 | 560.56 | 42.2 | 45.9 | 41.4 | 13.35 | 13.98 | 13.54 |
| CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION..... | 507.14 | 479.65 | 499.42 | 33.9 | 32.3 | 34.9 | 14.96 | 14.85 | 14.31 |
| TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES..... | 395.39 | 407.94 | 411.33 | 38.5 | 39.0 | 39.1 | 10.27 | 10.46 | 10.52 |
| Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services... | 396.17 | 408.12 | 394.30 | 40.8 | 41.1 | 40.4 | 9.71 | 9.93 | 9.76 |
| WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE.. | 194.59 | 196.56 | 195.50 | 30.5 | 31.2 | 30.5 | 6.38 | 6.30 | 6.41 |
| FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE..... | 195.79 | 190.99 | 188.10 | 34.9 | 34.6 | 34.2 | 5.61 | 5.52 | 5.50 |
| SERVICES..... | 194.69 | 195.49 | 194.14 | 31.3 | 29.8 | 30.1 | 6.22 | 6.56 | 6.45 |

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950;Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

Table VIII

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

| AREAS | Dec. 1982 | Nov. 1982 | Oct. 1982 | Year to Date 1982 | 1981 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| STATE OF MONTANA | 492 | 481 | 531 | 6393 | 6699 |
| GREAT FALLS SMSA | 25 | 28 | 39 | 394 | 427 |
| BILLINGS SMSA | 70 | 60 | 79 | 843 | 909 |
| FOREIGN CORPORATIONS AND MULTI COUNTY BUSINESS | 62 | 81 | 78 | 1080 | 1266 |
| ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA | 34 | 32 | 38 | 403 | 415 |
| Beaverhead | 5 | 8 | 3 | 68 | 79 |
| Deer Lodge | 4 | 1 | 8 | 38 | 56 |
| Granite | 2 | 1 | 4 | 20 | 12 |
| Madison | 2 | 3 | 3 | 47 | 51 |
| Powell | 1 | 2 | 3 | 31 | 20 |
| Silver Bow | 20 | 17 | 17 | 199 | 197 |
| BOZEMAN LMA | 47 | 47 | 46 | 519 | 455 |
| Gallatin | 36 | 40 | 35 | 414 | 352 |
| Meagher | 1 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 13 |
| Park | 10 | 7 | 11 | 87 | 90 |
| GLASGOW LMA | 17 | 7 | 16 | 210 | 234 |
| Daniels | 1 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 11 |
| Phillips | 2 | 2 | 4 | 35 | 31 |
| Roosevelt | 3 | 2 | 5 | 67 | 71 |
| Sheridan | 8 | 0 | 2 | 47 | 78 |
| Valley | 3 | 3 | 5 | 46 | 43 |
| GLENDIVE LMA | 14 | 17 | 22 | 307 | 418 |
| Dawson | 0 | 8 | 8 | 95 | 149 |
| Garfield | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 11 |
| McCone | 1 | 0 | 2 | 12 | 22 |
| Prairie | 0 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 14 |
| Richland | 13 | 8 | 11 | 177 | 212 |
| Wibaux | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 10 |
| HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA | 9 | 5 | 9 | 141 | 153 |
| Big Horn | 3 | 0 | 2 | 41 | 40 |
| Carbon | 2 | 5 | 7 | 56 | 51 |
| Stillwater | 3 | 0 | 0 | 31 | 45 |
| Sweet Grass | 1 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 17 |
| HAVRE LMA | 18 | 12 | 6 | 155 | 185 |
| Blaine | 1 | 1 | 1 | 23 | 33 |
| Hill | 14 | 9 | 4 | 111 | 142 |
| Liberty | 3 | 2 | 1 | 21 | 10 |
| HELENA LMA | 40 | 30 | 20 | 393 | 397 |
| Broadwater | 3 | 2 | 2 | 32 | 20 |
| Jefferson | 2 | 1 | 2 | 25 | 35 |
| Lewis and Clark | 35 | 27 | 16 | 336 | 342 |
| KALISPELL LMA | 68 | 56 | 70 | 726 | 624 |
| Flathead | 43 | 32 | 47 | 455 | 407 |
| Lake | 5 | 9 | 9 | 133 | 110 |
| Lincoln | 20 | 15 | 14 | 138 | 107 |
| LEWISTOWN LMA | 10 | 9 | 14 | 119 | 126 |
| Fergus | 5 | 5 | 9 | 59 | 64 |
| Golden Valley | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| Judith Basin | 3 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 14 |
| Musselshell | 1 | 2 | 1 | 30 | 32 |
| Petroleum | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Wheatland | 1 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 11 |
| MILES CITY LMA | 10 | 15 | 14 | 168 | 184 |
| Carter | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 5 |
| Custer | 4 | 1 | 4 | 55 | 68 |
| Fallon | 0 | 7 | 2 | 32 | 33 |
| Powder River | 0 | 0 | 1 | 12 | 19 |
| Rosebud | 5 | 7 | 6 | 60 | 56 |
| Treasure | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| MISSOULA LMA | 50 | 66 | 63 | 710 | 678 |
| Mineral | 1 | 1 | 2 | 19 | 21 |
| Missoula | 35 | 49 | 45 | 498 | 443 |
| Ravalli | 10 | 12 | 9 | 145 | 160 |
| Sanders | 4 | 4 | 7 | 48 | 54 |
| SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA | 18 | 16 | 17 | 225 | 228 |
| Chouteau | 9 | 2 | 1 | 45 | 28 |
| Glacier | 5 | 0 | 5 | 61 | 63 |
| Pondera | 1 | 4 | 3 | 41 | 36 |
| Teton | 2 | 3 | 5 | 34 | 26 |
| Toole | 1 | 7 | 3 | 42 | 75 |

# UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIMS TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons: to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individuals' reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under Montana law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

### SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

| | 1982 | 1981 | Net Change | Percent Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Initial Claims | 57,830 | 50,011 | 7,819 | 15.6% |
| Continued Claims | 634,364 | 501,314 | 133,050 | 26.5% |
| Number of Benefit Payments | 569,917 | 441,542 | 128,375 | 29.1% |
| Amount of Benefits Paid | $64,243,609 | $45,175,900 | $19,067,709 | 42.2% |
| Average Weekly Benefit Amount | $122.03 | $110.26 | $11.77 | 10.7% |

MONTHLY

| | Dec. | Nov. | Oct. | Change to Current Month from same mnth a yr ago Net | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Initial Claims1/ | 5,814 | 4,944 | 5,155 | -830 | -12.5% |
| Continued Claims1/ | 54,124 | 48,724 | 35,575 | 540 | 1.0% |
| Number of Benefit Payments1/ | 49,998 | 39,580 | 30,068 | 3,271 | 7.0% |
| Amount of Benefits Paid1/ | $6,709,341 | $4,349,617 | $3,224,460 | $1,722,962 | 34.6% |
| Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt1/2/ | $147.47 | $118.46 | $129.68 | $30.24 | 25.8% |
| Trust Fund Balance | $8,171,221 | $14,193,749 | $13,071,379 | $17,997,478 | -68.8% |

1/ Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.
2/ Derived According to Definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".

TABLE IX-A

ETA5-159B DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
DECEMBER 1982

| COUNTY | COUNT | AMOUNT |
|---|---|---|
| BEAVERHEAD | 504 | 55,591.55 |
| BIGHORN | 393 | 41,117.65 |
| BLAINE | 388 | 40,483.46 |
| BROADWATER | 231 | 28,970.66 |
| CARBON | 362 | 40,816.42 |
| CARTER | 36 | 4,577.00 |
| CASCADE | 3,959 | 419,369.74 |
| CHOUTEAU | 153 | 17,029.00 |
| CUSTER | 427 | 46,932.00 |
| DANIELS | 83 | 8,890.00 |
| DAWSON | 955 | 114,347.25 |
| DEER LODGE | 823 | 98,028.28 |
| FALLON | 162 | 18,364.80 |
| FERGUS | 610 | 66,533.39 |
| FLATHEAD | 4,234 | 453,992.86 |
| GALLATIN | 3,157 | 307,038.18 |
| GARFIELD | 17 | 1,937.00 |
| GLACIER | 660 | 59,086.11 |
| GOLDEN VALLEY | 32 | 4,557.00 |
| GRANITE | 160 | 20,239.00 |
| HILL | 713 | 76,044.18 |
| JEFFERSON | 407 | 45,344.90 |
| JUDITH BASIN | 61 | 6,291.00 |
| LAKE | 1,208 | 119,376.82 |
| LEWIS AND CLARK | 2,396 | 271,606.81 |
| LIBERTY | 57 | 7,256.00 |
| LINCOLN | 1,405 | 159,653.43 |
| MCCONE | 37 | 4,359.00 |
| MADISON | 422 | 53,010.98 |
| MEAGHER | 258 | 29,905.38 |
| MINERAL | 908 | 127,001.31 |
| MISSOULA | 4,057 | 424,454.55 |
| MUSSELSHELL | 288 | 37,532.00 |
| PARK | 747 | 67,647.00 |
| PETROLEUM | 9 | 876.00 |
| PHILLIPS | 433 | 53,526.13 |
| PONDERA | 253 | 27,384.00 |
| POWDER RIVER | 35 | 4,909.00 |
| POWELL | 399 | 48,236.54 |
| PRAIRIE | 56 | 6,364.00 |
| RAVALLI | 1,433 | 149,852.71 |
| RICHLAND | 1,210 | 153,087.12 |
| ROOSEVELT | 464 | 54,017.38 |
| ROSEBUD | 665 | 83,306.12 |
| SANDERS | 1,132 | 144,095.85 |
| SHERIDAN | 281 | 36,887.80 |
| SILVER BOW | 2,161 | 246,609.77 |
| STILLWATER | 391 | 44,551.60 |
| SWEET GRASS | 81 | 8,188.00 |
| TETON | 208 | 22,601.46 |
| TOOLE | 260 | 33,044.00 |
| TREASURE | 34 | 4,068.00 |
| VALLEY | 530 | 56,655.10 |
| WHEATLAND | 68 | 7,197.70 |
| WIBAUX | 107 | 12,913.00 |
| YELLOWSTONE | 6,527 | 767,835.66 |
| INTRASTATE | 47,107 | 6,371,138.55 |
| INTERSTATE | 2891 | 338,202.63 |
| TOTAL | 49,998 | 6,709,341.18 |

TABLE IX-B

ETA5-1593 DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
NOVEMBER 1982

| COUNTY | COUNT | AMOUNT |
|---|---|---|
| BEAVERHEAD | 276 | 22,159.99 |
| BIGHORN | 297 | 28,796.91 |
| BLAINE | 254 | 24,872.42 |
| BROADWATER | 143 | 18,173.00 |
| CARBON | 226 | 23,169.68 |
| CARTER | 17 | 2,002.00 |
| CASCADE | 3,546 | 343,094.19 |
| CHOUTEAU | 93 | 11,577.00 |
| CUSTER | 307 | 30,501.19 |
| DANIELS | 49 | 5,341.00 |
| DAWSON | 754 | 94,614.60 |
| DEER LODGE | 701 | 85,103.75 |
| FALLON | 101 | 11,513.00 |
| FERGUS | 520 | 55,189.06 |
| FLATHEAD | 3,578 | 394,257.86 |
| GALLATIN | 2,329 | 221,080.09 |
| GARFIELD | 14 | 1,041.00 |
| GLACIER | 541 | 50,800.92 |
| GOLDEN VALLEY | 23 | 2,892.00 |
| GRANITE | 139 | 17,333.00 |
| HILL | 672 | 70,324.69 |
| JEFFERSON | 311 | 36,183.00 |
| JUDITH BASIN | 49 | 4,828.00 |
| LAKE | 806 | 82,216.66 |
| LEWIS AND CLARK | 1,847 | 207,410.77 |
| LIBERTY | 20 | 2,648.00 |
| LINCOLN | 1,401 | 152,271.87 |
| MCCONE | 12 | 1,712.00 |
| MADISON | 287 | 35,782.66 |
| MEAGHER | 155 | 17,015.00 |
| MINERAL | 497 | 68,507.82 |
| MISSOULA | 3,594 | 370,268.70 |
| MUSSELSHELL | 255 | 33,831.43 |
| PARK | 595 | 62,551.49 |
| PETROLEUM | 4 | 488.00 |
| PHILLIPS | 212 | 25,436.97 |
| PONDERA | 133 | 12,540.00 |
| POWDER RIVER | 19 | 2,989.00 |
| POWELL | 460 | 57,443.02 |
| PRAIRIE | 46 | 5,792.00 |
| RAVALLI | 1,005 | 98,887.60 |
| RICHLAND | 566 | 113,369.60 |
| ROOSEVELT | 383 | 43,834.12 |
| ROSEBUD | 380 | 46,650.44 |
| SANDERS | 756 | 94,944.25 |
| SHERIDAN | 179 | 22,565.80 |
| SILVER BOW | 2,453 | 281,835.48 |
| STILLWATER | 227 | 25,526.28 |
| SWEET GRASS | 35 | 3,904.00 |
| TETON | 119 | 13,165.26 |
| TOOLE | 185 | 20,656.00 |
| TREASURE | 15 | 1,692.00 |
| VALLEY | 357 | 36,470.70 |
| WHEATLAND | 57 | 5,941.56 |
| WIBAUX | 61 | 6,601.00 |
| YELLOWSTONE | 4,951 | 556,524.11 |
| INTRASTATE | 37,232 | 4,077,472.85 |
| INTERSTATE | 2,348 | 272,144.39 |
| TOTAL | 39,580 | 4,349,617.24 |

TABLE IX-C

ETA5-159B DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
OCTOBER 1982

| COUNTY | COUNT | AMOUNT |
|---|---|---|
| BEAVERHEAD | 140 | 15,780.00 |
| BIGHORN | 289 | 27,320.66 |
| BLAINE | 186 | 19,563.62 |
| BROADWATER | 96 | 11,203.00 |
| CARBON | 164 | 15,977.78 |
| CARTER | 21 | 2,517.00 |
| CASCADE | 2,779 | 279,631.96 |
| CHOUTEAU | 102 | 11,991.00 |
| CUSTER | 217 | 22,393.71 |
| DANIELS | 25 | 2,673.00 |
| DAWSON | 609 | 75,524.45 |
| DEER LODGE | 667 | 83,855.98 |
| FALLON | 115 | 13,756.00 |
| FERGUS | 343 | 36,653.01 |
| FLATHEAD | 1,829 | 192,537.04 |
| GALLATIN | 1,554 | 152,103.52 |
| GARFIELD | 14 | 1,041.00 |
| GLACIER | 478 | 51,700.58 |
| GOLDEN VALLEY | 16 | 2,000.00 |
| GRANITE | 104 | 13,052.00 |
| HILL | 557 | 57,385.16 |
| JEFFERSON | 232 | 26,692.00 |
| JUDITH BASIN | 33 | 3,026.00 |
| LAKE | 642 | 63,096.90 |
| LEWIS AND CLARK | 1,405 | 151,612.37 |
| LIBERTY | 20 | 2,486.00 |
| LINCOLN | 877 | 100,463.84 |
| MCCONE | 22 | 3,213.00 |
| MADISON | 100 | 11,310.60 |
| MEAGHER | 117 | 12,249.00 |
| MINERAL | 148 | 16,888.00 |
| MISSOULA | 2,698 | 280,548.54 |
| MUSSELSHELL | 223 | 29,703.37 |
| PARK | 444 | 44,236.12 |
| PETROLEUM | 3 | 366.00 |
| PHILLIPS | 209 | 25,659.72 |
| PONDERA | 116 | 9,818.00 |
| POWDER RIVER | 30 | 3,813.00 |
| POWELL | 312 | 36,125.74 |
| PRAIRIE | 34 | 3,880.00 |
| RAVALLI | 758 | 77,393.05 |
| RICHLAND | 819 | 104,643.95 |
| ROOSEVELT | 320 | 37,041.88 |
| ROSEBUD | 336 | 39,865.08 |
| SANDERS | 669 | 84,169.97 |
| SHERIDAN | 153 | 18,886.20 |
| SILVER BOW | 2,016 | 233,426.00 |
| STILLWATER | 144 | 15,512.20 |
| SWEET GRASS | 28 | 2,193.00 |
| TETON | 94 | 9,787.60 |
| TOOLE | 152 | 17,682.00 |
| TREASURE | 17 | 2,010.00 |
| VALLEY | 353 | 36,732.50 |
| WHEATLAND | 53 | 5,975.00 |
| WIBAUX | 62 | 7,208.00 |
| YELLOWSTONE | 4,154 | 460,481.37 |
| INTRASTATE | 28,109 | 3,343967.02 |
| INTERSTATE | 1,959 | 226,824.49 |
| TOTAL | 30,068 | 3.570,791.51 |

TABLE X

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1982 THRU DECEMBER 1982

| COUNTY | COUNT | AMOUNT |
|---|---|---|
| BEAVERHEAD | 4,275 | 466,139.40 |
| BIGHORN | 6,216 | 634,903.88 |
| BLAINE | 3,639 | 372,248.69 |
| BROADWATER | 2,289 | 271,285.86 |
| CARBON | 3,962 | 426,244.53 |
| CARTER | 260 | 27,116.00 |
| CASCADE | 45,319 | 4,621,318.86 |
| CHOUTEAU | 1,378 | 143,383.00 |
| CUSTER | 5,050 | 524,511.62 |
| DANIELS | 484 | 52,776.00 |
| DAWSON | 7,668 | 922,930.54 |
| DEER LODGE | 11,613 | 1,346,440.79 |
| FALLON | 1,037 | 118,746.80 |
| FERGUS | 6,487 | 677,365.05 |
| FLATHEAD | 53,561 | 5,912,845.28 |
| GALLATIN | 28,335 | 2,796,657.22 |
| GARFIELD | 187 | 17,443.00 |
| GLACIER | 8,988 | 991,754.95 |
| GOLDEN VALLEY | 309 | 37,062.00 |
| GRANITE | 1,098 | 227,387.09 |
| HILL | 9,561 | 951,693.61 |
| JEFFERSON | 5,715 | 648,885.08 |
| JUDITH BASIN | 603 | 63,119.50 |
| LAKE | 13,253 | 1,283,572.62 |
| LEWIS AND CLARK | 28,429 | 3,049,404.95 |
| LIBERTY | 656 | 74,009.08 |
| LINCOLN | 26,407 | 3,130,891.49 |
| MCCONE | 528 | 60,509.05 |
| MADISON | 2,457 | 262,888.40 |
| MEAGHER | 1,580 | 169,334.19 |
| MINERAL | 7,837 | 968,760.42 |
| MISSOULA | 56,658 | 5,874,961.45 |
| MUSSELSHELL | 3,010 | 378,364.85 |
| PARK | 8,238 | 803,320.62 |
| PETROLEUM | 92 | 9,035.00 |
| PHILLIPS | 3,313 | 386,429.46 |
| PONDERA | 2,609 | 250,448.65 |
| POWDER RIVER | 327 | 39,459.00 |
| POWELL | 6,006 | 672,640.60 |
| PRAIRIE | 448 | 53,373.00 |
| RAVALLI | 17,526 | 1,828,393.37 |
| RICHLAND | 9,518 | 1,179,319.62 |
| ROOSEVELT | 5,523 | 592,989.95 |
| ROSEBUD | 5,872 | 664,435.43 |
| SANDERS | 11,781 | 1,366,451.33 |
| SHERIDAN | 2,094 | 270,114.73 |
| SILVER BOW | 37,824 | 4,303,385.95 |
| STILLWATER | 3,307 | 376,176.74 |
| SWEET GRASS | 855 | 85,803.48 |
| TETON | 2,240 | 240,452.74 |
| TOOLE | 2,991 | 352,971.64 |
| TREASURE | 273 | 33,615.00 |
| VALLEY | 5,574 | 578,544.01 |
| WHEATLAND | 817 | 84,520.17 |
| WIBAUX | 822 | 101,294.34 |
| YELLOWSTONE | 66,284 | 7,285,836.26 |
| INTRASTATE | 544,183 | 60,778,362.20 |
| INTERSTATE | 25,734 | 3,811,578.91 |
| TOTAL | 569,917 | 64,589,941.11 |

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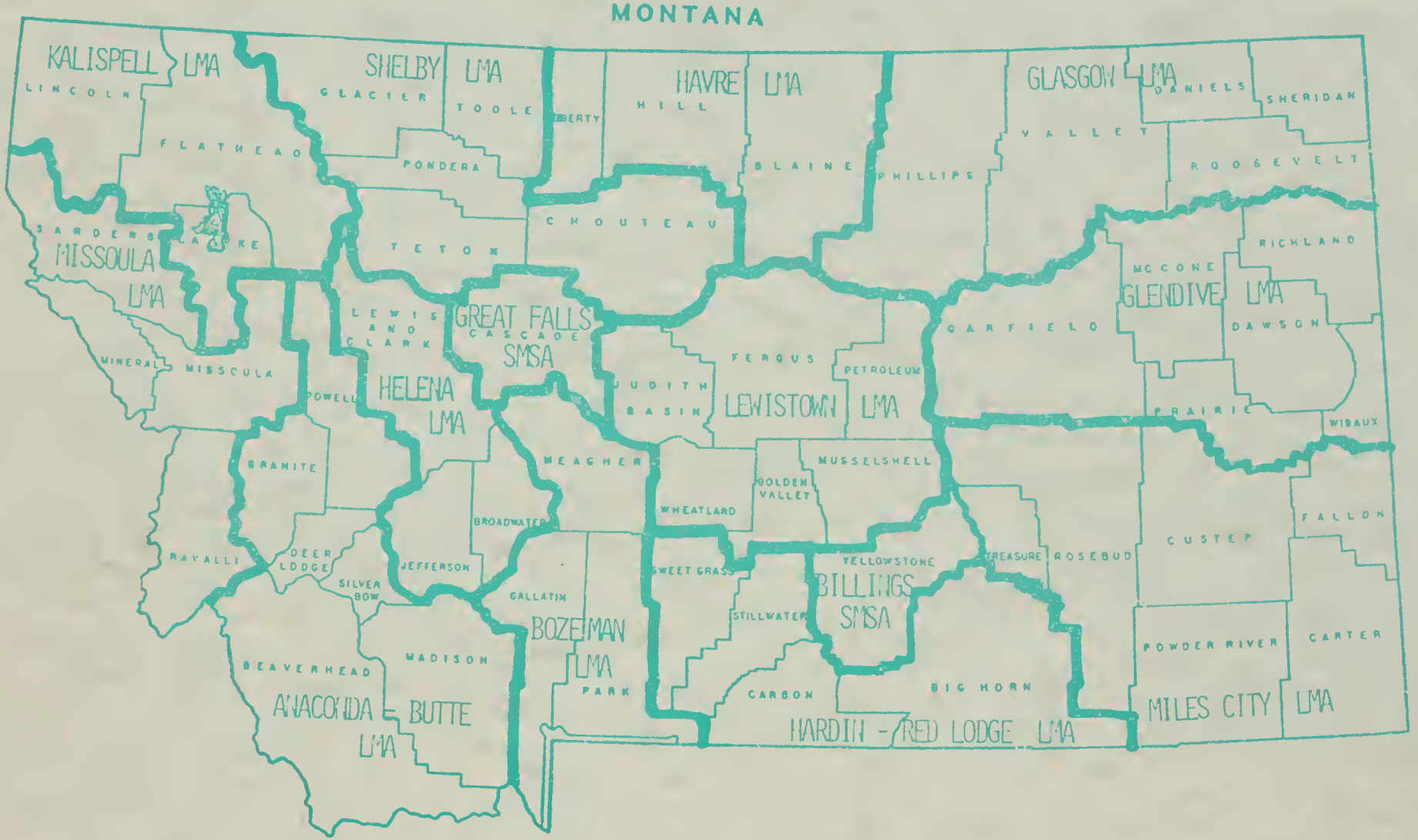
IN

MONTANA



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The Montana State Employment Services Division maintains 24 local Job Service Offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.

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